
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Nguyen et al.

Application No.: 10/642,898

Filed: August 18, 2003

Title: TOURNAMENT GAMING METHOD
AND SYSTEM

Attorney Docket No.: IGT1P278/P-800

Examiner: Binh An Duc Nguyen

Group: 3714

Confirmation No.: 3207

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted electronically through EFS-WEB to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on November 27, 2007.

Signed: _____ /swx/
Susan W. Xu

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Restriction Requirement dated September 27, 2007, Applicant hereby elects, **without** traverse, group II (claims 26-41) to prosecute in the above-identified patent application.

However, the Applicant respectfully submits that the Examiner's species restriction of group II is improper because the Examiner has not provided any factual evidence to establish a prima facie case. It is respectfully submitted that a software agent can be configured according to both a particular skill level (claim 29) and risk level (claim 30). As such, claims 29 and 30 can be combined. Similarly, claims 31 and 32 can be combined because the second player can be prompted to answer a question (claim 31) and also prompted to select a template (claim 32). Similarly, claims 34 and 35 can be combined because a fictional person can also be a famous person (e.g., "supermen"). Analyzing game playing behavior can include analyzing actions of a player during the game play (claim 37) and analyzing player tracking information associated with the second player (claim 38).

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the independent features recited in claims 29, 30, 31, 32 34, 35, 37 and 38 can be combined and therefore the Examiner's species rejection is improper. Further, it is respectfully submitted that the Examination of these claims does not pose an undue burden on the Examiner because there are only two independent claims in the elected group (group II).

Accordingly, the Applicant traverses the Examiner's species restriction of group II, but select claims 29, 31, 34 and 37 for Examination.

Applicant hereby petitions for a one (1) month extension of time to respond to the aforementioned Office Action. Please charge the Deposit Account 500388 for \$120 to facilitate filing of this Response to Restriction Requirement, and the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees to Deposit Account 500388 (Order No. IGT1P278).

Respectfully submitted,
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